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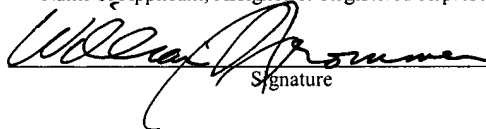
Applicants : Hajime NISHIMURA et al. Notice of Allowance
Dated: 11/16/2004
U.S. Serial No. : 09/521,698 Confirmation No. 2390
Filing Date : March 9, 2000
For : DISK RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING
APPARATUS
Examiner : Robert Chevalier
Art Unit : 2616

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New York, New York 10151

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Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 16, 2004

William S. Frommer, Reg. No. 25,506

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative


Signature

December 16, 2004

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed November 16, 2004. To the extent the Examiner's
Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP
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